

**From:** [Coleman, Sam](#)  
**To:** [Gray, David](#); [Carroll, Craig](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Opalski, Dan](#); [Peterson, Mary](#); [Price, Lisa](#); [Smith, Monica](#); [Vargo, Steve](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Sam - Tonight Update  
**Date:** Friday, September 8, 2017 5:30:15 AM

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I agree Thanks for the great work  
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**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 10:14 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig ; Coleman, Sam ; Edlund, Carl ; Opalski, Dan ; Peterson, Mary ; Price, Lisa ; Smith, Monica ; Vargo, Steve  
**Subject:** RE: Sam - Tonight Update

## One additional item

Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday ordered Arkema, a French multinational company, to provide a detailed timeline of events and to respond within 10 days to questions about the handling of organic peroxides, which are combustible if not kept refrigerated, the amount of chemical materials, and the measures taken in advance to guard against flooding and loss of electricity

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**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 9:53 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig <[Carroll.Craig@epa.gov](mailto:Carroll.Craig@epa.gov)>; Coleman, Sam <[Coleman.Sam@epa.gov](mailto:Coleman.Sam@epa.gov)>; Edlund, Carl <[edlund.carl@epa.gov](mailto:edlund.carl@epa.gov)>; Opalski, Dan <[Opalski.Dan@epa.gov](mailto:Opalski.Dan@epa.gov)>; Peterson, Mary <[Peterson.Mary@epa.gov](mailto:Peterson.Mary@epa.gov)>; Price, Lisa <[Price.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Price.Lisa@epa.gov)>; Smith, Monica <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>; Vargo, Steve <[Vargo.Steve@epa.gov](mailto:Vargo.Steve@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Sam - Tonight Update

Sam,

Here are a few updates on critical issues:

Lisa Price and Steve Vargo have joined our rapid information response group to augment Craig Carroll and Monica Smith's great work. They will help us strengthen and expand our bandwidth to gather, synthesize and report information more efficiently.

We addressed your and Kell's request to expand EPA coverage at the State Operations Center in Austin to 24/7 starting today

and have planned for the next round of rotations.

I signed the memo to demobilize the IMT from R2, 3, 5 and allow them to return in preparation for Irma. We have deployed region 6 staff behind the positions and several TCEQ efforts are winding down (they closed the DW/WW call center). Superfund NPL site confirmation sampling is underway and will be completed by Monday. We expect data by Wednesday next week. Texas is following our plan for state sites and will begin sampling on Monday.

Private water well sampling – Good news – it looks like we have negotiated a ESF3 mission assignment for funding (a big accomplishment) and we have moved forward on ordering supplies, program development, and having staff mobilized to Houston to make up kits. Bad news – we won't deploy the program until early next week.

Manchester Air Quality – Enforcement is coordinating with TCEQ for an all-hands effort to look at the sources.

Enforcement sent letter advising the companies that we are relying on them to be good neighbors and self-identify problems. We will turn over TAGA and START to support enforcement (they have deployed inspectors) tomorrow with a goal of finding the source so we can solve the problem.

Enforcement personnel (TCEQ and EPA ) will be equipped with FLARE cameras to follow leads from TAGA/START and make facility entries to identify sources.

ALSO – we are poised to publish TAGA data before TCEQ Honeycutt interviews with the New York Times tomorrow.

Municipal SSO Consent Decrees – DOJ issued a letter to Corpus Christi today and Houston should go out tomorrow.

Open Burning – Jim will follow up on the need for a NAA as suggested. Otherwise, authority rests with the state.

Vegetative burning shouldn't require us to do air monitoring.

Debris Management – Finally heard from our attempts to reach Corpus City manager from the Adm visit and your earlier assignment. But - clearly we need to do more based on the response from the county judge that you shared with us today. We are on it and will keep you updated.

Vector – Carl has signed a concurrence for the state of Texas Vector Control Plan to allow for the aerial spraying of “Naled” to control mosquitoes.

Arkema – We are ready to publish our information/data from water and ASPECT for the Arkema response effort. It will happen tomorrow.

Community liaisons – Good news – we have deployed nearly 20 folks to the field and have coordinated materials with TCEQ, state DPS and FEMA ESF-15. Janetta Coats and Diane Taheri have done a great job getting this organized today. Arturo has EJ leads for both Harris and Jefferson (Pt Arthur counties). Bad news – many county EOCs are closing, unresponsive or not interested. That said – we have an aggressive plan and based on the Govr announcement today looking at the opportunity to augment the single-point-of-contact A&M Extension Service POC for the areas.

Okay – it's late so I need to wrap up. Before I say good night – I

want to say the entire team did some incredible work today to move thing forward. I won't try to say each name but I will draft a thank you note and distribution list for you to send out.  
David